

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of:

AM stations being allowed to
Simulcast on FM translators RM-11338

To: The Commission

COMMENTS

Miller Communications, Inc., the licensee of WTIM-FM Taylorville, IL and WMKR (FM) Pana, IL; Kaskaskia Broadcasting, Inc., the licensee of WRAN(FM) Tower Hill, IL; and Virden Broadcasting Corp., licensee of WKEI (AM) Kewanee, IL, WJRE (FM) Galva, IL, WYEC (FM) Kewanee, IL; and WGEN (AM) Geneseo, IL, (collectively, “commenters”), hereby submits the following comments on the petition by the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), to allow AM stations to simulcast their programming on FM translators.

The commenters were the petitioners earlier this year, in rulemaking # RM-11331, asking the Commission to allow locally originated programming on FM translators.

Although the NAB filed comments objecting to our rulemaking petition to allow further local programming thru the use of FM translators, we are filing these comments to SUPPORT the NAB’s petition to allow AM stations to simulcast programming on FM translators.

As we filed in our initial petition for rulemaking in April of this year, our contention is the same as the Commission’s, and

that is, the goal of local service should be in the forefront of all the decisions the FCC and our industry makes.

The Commission has long encouraged new avenues of local programming, and we believe that allowing AM stations, particularly those with little or no nighttime coverage that severely impact serving their communities, to simulcast their programming full-time on an FM translator frequency, would provide millions of radio listeners with additional local news, weather, sports, coverage of high school play by play, and other important information.

As we've previously stated to the Commission, ANYTHING that provide additional LOCAL service to our listeners, is a GOOD THING, and we would ask that the Commission ALLOW this petition so that radio listeners across the country can be provided further local programming on FM translator frequencies, from AM stations thru simulcasting.

Respectfully submitted,

MILLER COMMUNICATIONS,
INC.
KASKASKIA BROADCASTING,
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VIRDEN BROADCASTING
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